Ozone Hole

1904. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been increase in the ozone hole;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps being taken to minimize the hole?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The size of the ozone hole has been varying over the years. As compared to the year 2000, the size of ozone hole has decreased.

(c) The steps taken by Government are:—

(i) Accession to the Montreal Protocol and all its amendments and preparation of a Country Programme to phase out the production and consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances as per the specified schedule.

(ii) The promulgation of Ozone Depleting Substances (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000.

(iii) Licensing System for import and export of ozone depleting substances.

(iv) Fiscal incentives for substitution of ozon depleting substances and setting up of new capacities with non-ODS technologies.

(v) Increasing awareness on the need to reduce use of ozone depleting substances.

Integrated Coastal Zone Management

1905. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have commissioned preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) plans for a few States and Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any project for coastal shelter belt plantation in West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have commissioned preparation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans for identified islands of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep and also for identified coastal stretches of Karnataka, Kerala and West Bengal.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Eco-Tourism Projects

†1906. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to proposals received from various States regarding eco-tourism projects;

(b) whether any such proposal has also been received from Uttaranchal State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Government provides funding support to the States under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Schemes of "Project Tiger" and "Assistance for Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries" on their proposals covering activities that include, *inter-alia,* the development of infrastructure, interpretation facilities, literature packages, signages and other works related to wildlife viewing in Tiger Reserves/National Parks/ Wildlife Sanctuaries. At present there is no separate scheme to provide financial support to the States on Eco-tourism projects.

(b) No proposal of Eco-tourism has been received from the Government of Uttaranchal.

(c) Does not arise.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.